

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR (Lithuanian SSR)
(Institute)
 SUBJECT The Medical Faculty of the Vilnius
 University i/n V. Kapsukas

REPORT

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the Medical Faculty of the Vilnius University i/n V. Kapsukas

The report contains information on location, instructors, number and nationality of students, curriculum, and Party activity.

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COUNTRY: USSR (Lithuanian SSR)
SUBJECT: The Medical Faculty of Vilnius University

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1. The Medical Faculty of Vilnius University (formerly Uniwersytet Stefana Batorego) occupied several buildings at 29 Ciurlionio Street on the corner of Sirakauska Street. The school trained only general practitioners, and not specialists, in its six-year course of study.

2. There were about 70 students in each class. The following subjects were included in the curriculum:

First Year

- a. History of the Party
- b. Anatomy
- c. Inorganic chemistry

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- d. Analytical chemistry
- e. Physics
- f. Biology and parasitology
- g. Latin
- h. Lithuanian

Second Year (First Half)

- i. Anatomy
 - j. Histology
 - k. Embryology
 - l. Political economy
 - m. Physiology
 - n. Biological chemistry
 - o. Colloidal physical chemistry
3. The student body of the medical faculty was about one-third Russian and two-thirds Lithuanian. Since the 1957/1958 academic year instruction has been exclusively in Lithuanian, whereas previously about 25 of the total 70 first-year students took the special Russian-language course. The Lithuanians were nationalistic and discriminated against the Russians as foreigners.¹
4. Students were to receive practical training at a clinic which was under construction in the Antokol quarter in 1957.

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5. The Komsomol at Vilnius University was headed by a committee which directed the faculty committees and the bureaus of the various courses. Candidates for offices in the Komsomol were proposed in general meetings, and elected by secret ballot. Frequent organizational meetings were held to encourage members to greater activity, but most students were not prepared to devote their free time to the organization. Moreover, students regarded the educational activity of Komsomol with contempt. Only a minority of the students, mostly Russians, were faithful to Komsomol ideology. The organization had only a few political meetings and limited itself to lectures of general interest to medical students, e.g., reports on Soviet doctors and their sacrifices. Bodkin, a preBolshevik physician, was a favorite topic. Sports and arts had virtually supplanted political activity.
6. The Komsomol annually mobilized youth to help with the harvest, and groups of students "volunteered", after being threatened with the loss of their scholarships, to serve the new lands program for a month.
7. Most of the students were opposed to the Soviet action in Hungary in late 1956. When a lecturer from outside of the university attempted to expound ~~upon~~ the official line, a lively debate ensued, which was continued in Party courses. However, no students were known to have been arrested.

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8. The Profsyuz cell (Profkom) at the university supervised the material needs of the students, such as scholarships, hostels, restaurants, and vacations.

9. The following persons were known:

- a. Bulovas (fnu) [redacted] was the rector of Vilnyus University.
- b. Finkielbrand [redacted] lectured in histology at the medical faculty.
- c. Markulis (fnu) was a lecturer in anatomy at the Vilnyus University.
(fnu)
- d. Pavilonis, a physician, had been the dean of the medical faculty since 1956. [redacted]

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1. [redacted] Comment: This was but one aspect of the derussification of Lithuania. The Lithuanian language was gradually replacing Russian, even in films, and Russians were returning to the RSFSR or to settle in the Kazakh SSR.

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